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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) An improved blade for a shovel, comprising:
a scoop portion having a width, a length, and a leading edge; [[and]]
a plurality of concave scallops on the leading edge; and
each scallop defining a segment of a single circle;
wherein the segments intersect at distinct forward points.

2. (Original) The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein:
the width of the scoop portion ranges between 6 and 24 inches; and
the number of scallops ranges between 3 and 12.

3. (Currently Amended) The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein:
~~the scallops include a curved portion having a radius between two points~~ are spaced apart by a
distance 'd'; and
the radius of each scallop, 'r,' is greater than $d/2$.

4. (Currently Amended) The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein:
~~the scallops include a curved portion having a radius between two points~~ are spaced apart by a
distance 'd'; and
the radius of each scallop, 'r,' is substantially equal to 'd'.

5. (Currently Amended) The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein:
~~the scallops include a curved portion having a radius between two points~~ are spaced apart by a
distance 'd'; and
the radius of each scallop, 'r,' is greater than 'd'.

6. (Original) The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the scallops are substantially identical.

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7. (Original) The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the scoop portion is configured for snow shoveling.

8. (Original) The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the scoop portion includes stiffening ribs.

9. (Original) The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the scoop portion is configured for gardening.

10. (Original) The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the scoop portion is configured for ice scraping.

11. (Original) The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the leading edge is attached to the scoop portion.

12. (Original) The improved shovel of claim 1, wherein the leading edge and scoop portion are constructed from dissimilar materials.